

Howard County Equal Opportunity and **Prosperity Task Force**

3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043-4392

December 21, 2018

Howard County Council 3430 Court House Drive Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear Members of the Howard County Council,

The Co-Chairs and members of the Economic Opportunity and Prosperity Task Force (EOPTF) are pleased to submit the report required by Council Resolution 119-17, passed on October 2, 2017.

The EOPTF will remain in place through March 2019 in order to answer any questions the Council may have. All documents are available on the https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/EOPTaskForce and the full report will also be posted.

The Task Force was charged with reviewing relevant policies, programs, and reports and recommending strategies that would foster employment and economic growth in Howard County. Each recommendation includes Outcomes, Actionable Items, Interested Parties, and Sources.

The work was co-chaired by Phyllis Madachy, retired professional with thirty years of service in Howard County Government and Leonardo Vandaral McClarty, President/CEO, Howard County Chamber of Commerce. A total of 30 residents participated in the work during the 15 months of public meetings.

To fully brief the County Council, CR 119-17 requires the Task Force to remain in place through March 2019. In addition, we respectfully request that at least one meeting be a public hearing so that community representatives can speak directly on recommendations of importance to them. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this service for the County Council and County Administration. It was a rewarding experience and we believe the recommendations will be an effective guideline for your future decisions.

Sincerely,

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Cc: Jessica Feldmark, County Council Administrator